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Date: December 9, 2003

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under Rule 1.53(f)

Transmitted herewith for filing is the Patent Application/of:

ASSIGNEE NAME: International Business Machines Corporation

ASSIGNEE RESIDENCE: Armonk, New York

Inventors: Akashi Satoh, Sumio Morioka and Kohji Takano.

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Enclosed are:

X 17 (seventeen) Sheets of Formal Drawings.

X A certified copy of a Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-367334.

X Unsigned Declaration and Power of Attorney is attached to the application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Date: December 09, 2003

Akashi Satoh et al.

Docket No.: JP920020207US1

Serial No. To be assigned

Filed: Herewith

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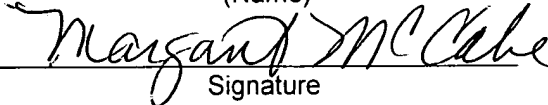
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